

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

VOL. 52—NO. 67

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1916

PRICE TWO CENTS

## BELIEVE HARLEM RIVER IS KE TO FREIGHT TIE-UP

Local Investigators Have Gathered Much Information For Shippers.

THOUSANDS OF CARS LYING ON SIDINGS

Inadequate Equipment And Shortage of Help Are Chief Causes.

Investigation made by the Transportation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, R. W. Miller, E. H. Havens, C. A. Baldwin and George G. Goulden, whose special request, added to others, caused the Interstate Commerce Commission to act in the matter of freight embargoes on railroads is said to have been most illuminating as to the cause of tying up New York and New England in one of the worst freight congestions ever known in America.

Intimations reaching this city today are to the effect that the Commission's committee of railroad heads are concentrating their efforts towards relieving the situation found at the Harlem river terminals of the New Haven, where it is said that the Erie, Central of New Jersey and the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroads at times have been delivering an average of 1,500 cars daily, with less than 100 being moved in the same period by the New Haven road.

Investigation has shown the New Haven road to be inadequately equipped with motive power, and that offers of the three roads mentioned to transport engines across the Manhattan Lower bay with the freight trains and run them through under the loaded motive power has had to be refused because of lack of engineers "qualified to operate trains on certain sections."

Information from New York and the West indicates that because of the great growth of transportation business in New England hundreds of thousands of cars have been tied up in New York city and vicinity due to the New Haven's lack of facilities and experienced men to operate trains, with the consequent result that in the far west there is a serious shortage of "empty" with which to move even the foodstuffs that are necessary for consumption in the East. This fact is borne out by inquiry among manufacturers in this city which indicates that the majority have increased their incoming and outgoing shipments over 50 per cent. while some factories claim that their shipping volume has increased about 100 per cent. The condition is true of New Haven and Waterbury shippers.

A report received from Waterbury today which confirms the information received in this city indicates that thousands of cars are lying idle in freight yards, being neither loaded or unloaded because of lack of motive power to move them to locations proximate to consignees.

Such a condition obtains to a lesser degree in this city. At the lower yards, the East End yards and the Water street terminal there is little activity today. In response to inquiries made by the Chamber of Commerce and shippers it was said by the railroad company that many consignees were paying the \$1 a day demurrage rather than to empty cars. On the other hand shippers declared that the cars were being placed at distances too great to permit transfer of cargoes by truck except at high expense.

## BY-LAW CHANGES FOR C. OF C. ARE BEING DISCUSSED

Discover No Provision Has Been Made For Re-Election of Officers.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce special committee to redraft the constitution and bylaw of the organization that the manner and means of elections may be provided for, will be held at the rooms in the First-Brigade National bank building this afternoon.

Though the situation presented by the discovery of the omission might lead to trouble in the event that there was friction between the various unit organizations composing the chamber it is believed that such correction should be made at this time because of the coming election of officers to be held April 24.

Under the present situation no means of appointing delegates to the elective convention is provided except by the local unit organizations. Should any of these withhold their delegates an election would be impossible except by special appointment by the board of directors which would not meet with approval of the disagreeing organization.

The committee today probably will recommend means and the additional clauses will be submitted to a vote of the directors at a meeting after which they will be voted by the membership.

### BAND TO MEET

A special meeting of the Wheeler & Wilson band will be held at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon in Republican headquarters, 176 Fairfield avenue. All members of the present band and a number of former members have been invited.

### THE WEATHER

Fair and slightly warmer tonight; Sunday partly cloudy and warmer.

## Cheer Up! Warmer Temperature Next Week, Is Promise

Washington, March 18.—The weather bureau in a forecast for the coming week says that a general reaction will bring normal temperature east of the Mississippi valley.

The next disturbance to cross the country will form west of the Rocky Mountains Sunday, pass to the plains states and the great central valleys Monday or Tuesday, and the eastern states about Wednesday. This disturbance will be preceded by a general rise in temperatures.

## Americans On Tubantia Are Reported Safe

Washington, March 18.—Two officers and lookouts of the destroyed Dutch liner Tubantia, the American consul at Amsterdam, reported today, "saw the steamer was torpedoed." He added that passengers were of the same opinion.

The consul reports four persons missing and says that Richard Schilling, referred to in news despatches as an American consul, is an employee of the New York Life Insurance Co. With his wife and daughter, Schilling was saved.

## ARMY BILL HAS WILSON'S O. K., HOUSE IS TOLD

Chairman Hay Says That Measure is the President's Own Bill.

Washington, March 18.—The House military bill is President Wilson's own bill, Chairman Hay, of the military committee, informed the House today, when debate on the measure was resumed under the ten hour rule.

"I am authorized to state," Chairman Hay replied, "that the bill meets with the approval of the President. It is his bill."

Mr. Hay added that while the bill did not contain the continental army provision recommended by former Secretary Garrison and approved by President Wilson, the President was satisfied that the proposed federalization of the National Guard would accomplish the same purpose.

"Then," said Mr. Moore, "gentlemen, voting for this bill will be voting for the President's convictions?"

"They will," Mr. Hay responded.

Representative Fields, Democrat of Kentucky, who opposed the debate, said the one principle upon which all agreed was "self-preservation and self-defense."

## MILFORD FACES COAL SHORTAGE; MERCHANTS ACT

Milford, March 18.—The scarcity of anthracite coal has become so pronounced here that the executive committee of the Business Men's association met last night and framed a request in behalf of the small towns along the Sound shore that the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad facilitate the movement of cars of hard coal to their destination. It is claimed that shipments have been on the way for three months and that while interior towns are getting coal the shore towns are suffering keenly because no coal is being sent to them. One of the members of the committee stated that people who are living at shore resorts this winter have had to go to bed early in the evening because they did not have fuel supplies enough to enable them to sit up and keep their stoves going.

## New Haven Sees Aero Over Big Arms Plant

New Haven, March 18.—A report was current last night that an airship of some type had maneuvered over the plant of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company and then had sailed away over West Rock. None of the many guards patrolling the plant saw it.

### RICHARD RICE DEAD.

Hartford, March 18.—Richard J. Rice, for 30 years an inspector with the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection & Insurance Co., and well known in all parts of New England states through his inspection work, died at his home, 36 Charter Oak place, this city, this morning. He was born in Chicopee, Mass., and was 69 years old. Mrs. Dunn, wife of Mayor Daniel P. Dunn, of Willimantic, is a sister of Mr. Rice.

## FRENCH MINISTER OF FINANCE SEES END OF WAR SOON

M. Ribot, Before Chamber of Deputies, Says Decisive Hour Is At Hand.

TENSION IN FRANCE SHOWS RELAXATION

Drive Against Verdun Lessens to Artillery Duel, is Berlin Report.

Paris, March 18.—"We have reached the decisive hour," said Alexandre Ribot, minister of finance, speaking in the chamber of deputies, last night on the financial and military situation. "We can say without exaggeration, without illusion and without optimism, that we now see the end of this horrible war."

M. Ribot's utterance is taken to be of the utmost importance. Whether or not peace is appreciable near, it is considered that the tension in France has relaxed and that thoughts are being turned to rapid developments favorable to the allies.

### VERDUN DRIVE SLACKENS.

Berlin, March 18.—The fighting activities of both the French and the German armies on the western front were less vigorous yesterday, according to the official statement issued today at the German army headquarters.

### FRENCH HOLD DEAD MAN HILL.

Washington, March 18.—The French embassy, upon instructions from Paris today emphatically denied that German forces were holding any portion of Dead Man's Hill.

### AERO STUDENTS BARRED HERE.

San Diego, March 18.—Four Portuguese army officers sent to San Diego for instruction in the use of military aviation under the instruction of United States army officers, received instructions from Washington, it was learned, that they cannot continue at the government aviation school.

## HUNDREDS FROM HERE TO PARADE NEXT LABOR DAY

Union Men Prepare Elaborately For State Celebration at Hartford.

Bridgeport Labor will be well represented at the annual state parade at Hartford to be held on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4. The various local organizations are already beginning elaborate preparations to participate and it is expected that at least 1,500 members will go from this city with the possibility of more.

The Carpenters & Joiners' union particularly is making arrangements to represent Bridgeport with a celebration of honor and glory, for they aim to have the largest and best decorated delegation in line, and are establishing a weekly collection fund that will be spent for the purpose of spreading the fame of Bridgeport far and wide. The mechanics, trolleydrivers, painters and various smaller organizations are also preparing for the big gala day.

## SPARK EXPLODES 400 POUNDS OF POWDER IN SHED

Wilmington, Del., March 18.—One of the mixing houses at the Carney's Point (N. J.) plant of the DuPont Powder Company was blown up today.

The explosion was caused by a spark from a hot bearing on some of the machinery. Four hundred pounds of smokeless powder went up in the blast. According to plant officials no workman was seriously hurt.

## Await Burnes' Action In Case of Hansell

Because Ray N. Hansell, age 25, of Far View Beach, in Milford, has applied for a renewal of his 1915 automobile license, Judge Frederick A. Bartlett in city court today continued the case of Hansell until next Monday, awaiting the decision of the secretary of state.

While driving an automobile at Main street and Fairfield avenue at 3:45 yesterday afternoon, Hansell struck and knocked down N. Warkner, age 25, of North Main street, a Portuguese negro. At police headquarters Hansell was unable to show his automobile license for 1915. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle without having procured a license. Warkner was not seriously injured and Hansell was released upon his own recognizance.

### RATS CAUSE FIRE

Fire believed to have been caused by rats and matches in the cellar of the house at 582 Myrtle avenue and occupied by Edward C. Walsh was extinguished at 3:51 this morning by firemen from Chemical Co. No. 1, who responded in answer to a still alarm. The damage was slight.

# U.S. TROOPS ENCAMPED NEAR CASAS GRANDES; VILLA NOW 110 MILES OFF

## DOG GIVES LIFE TO AROUSE TOTS IN FIRE PERIL

Indian River Homestead Burns To Ground After All Inmates Escape.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Mifflin, March 18.—"Freddie," a pet bull dog owned by former Representative George W. Clark, is dead—a real hero. "Freddie" gave his life this morning in an endeavor to save Mr. Clark's young grandchildren from a fire that razed the Clark homestead at Indian River.

The children, aged two and three years, were unharmed. They had been taken from the burning building by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Clark, when the first alarm was sounded.

"Freddie" didn't know that the youngsters were safe. He knew that it was his duty to keep a watchful eye over them. He didn't see his charges among the little group of neighbors who were assisting in the work of rescuing household goods as the flames swept the three-story dwelling.

With a yelp, "Freddie" dove through an open door into the house. He disappeared up a stairway leading to the children's sleeping room. "Freddie" was never seen again alive. His charred body was taken from the ruins of the house later.

Several lives were endangered by the fire which started in the kitchen. Smoke aroused a farmhand, who warned the members of the Clark family. They managed to save a few personal effects.

A dog named Freddie was seen near the scene of the recent railroad wreck in which 11 persons were killed. Mr. Clark witnessed the crash and his family gave first-aid treatment to many victims.

A passing train crew saw the fire this morning and sounded the alarm by blasts from the locomotive whistle. The house was valued at \$5,000 and there was little insurance.

## C. H. KING IS IN PERFECT HEALTH, SAYS PHYSICIAN

Absconding Fairfield Lawyer Now Is Working In Prison Shirt Shop.

The regularity of prison life has been a fine healthy tonic for C. H. King, the disbarred lawyer of this city, who was recently sentenced to Wethersfield for forgery.

He was suffering from liver trouble at the time of his arrest and it was feared by physicians who examined him that he had not long to live.

A few days ago the prison physician examined King and found him completely cured. He is employed in the shirt factory maintained at the prison.

County Sheriff Pease and Deputy Sheriff Cunningham heard reports about King's recovery when they went to Wethersfield yesterday with Jason S. Haines, the condemned murderer. They did not see King, however.

## Laundry Worker of Stratford Sought As An Absconder

(Special to The Farmer)

Stratford, March 18.—A warrant was issued today by Prosecuting Attorney Ivan L. Morehouse for the arrest of Fred King of Stratford, alleged to have absconded with money of Harry Saunders, proprietor of the Stratford Steam laundry. The warrant was given to Deputy Sheriff C. Mills Tomlinson.

King had been employed as a driver for the Stratford laundry for more than a year. He had access to the books and it was his duty to collect the money for washings delivered and make returns to Mr. Saunders either daily or weekly.

For the last month complaints have been lodged with the proprietor by many patrons, asking why they should receive bills after they had paid the driver. Mr. Saunders was perplexed. He saw no record of such proceedings on the books. When he went to inquire from the alleged son to how such a state of affairs existed King was not to be found. He left his job a week ago last Friday and has not been seen at Stratford since.

Some of the alleged peculations date back as far as December.

### GREECE FACES MONEY CRISIS.

Athens, March 18.—All direct telegraphic communication between Greece and Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey has been cut. The financial situation in Greece appears to be of the gravest nature.

## "FRAMED," PLEAD YOUNG MEN IN ROBBERY CASE

Tell Judge Bartlett of Alleged Plot Against Them By a Detective

Two young men who are believed by the police to be the persons who have been terrorizing residents in the neighborhood of the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co., have been bound over to the superior court under bonds of \$1,000 each. They are Thomas Barry, aged 20, and John J. Kelly, aged 19, of New York. Barry is a former inmate of the House of Refuge and Kelly is believed wanted by police in other cities.

In the city court this morning police expressed the belief that the youths are highwaymen. They were charged with highway robbery.

The youths were arrested by Sergeant Thomas Flood and Policeman Jacob Grossman on the night of March 11, at East Main street and Boston avenue. They were acting suspiciously in front of Engine Company No. 19 house in Putnam street. The police were put on their trail after they went away.

Barry's pockets were found a revolver, several bullets and a gold watch with a fob attached bearing the initials "K." In the city court both were charged with breach of the peace. The owner of the watch, Miss Christine Balanta, age 23, 1438 Pembroke street, was returning to her home at 10 o'clock on the night of March 11, at East Main street and Boston avenue, the site formerly occupied by the Old Mill green schoolhouse, they were held up by two young men. It is a forlorn spot and the darkness is intense at night. Krucovsky said that a young man, answering the description of Barry thrust a revolver in his face and ordered "Hands up!"

Barry is alleged to have "covered" Krucovsky with the weapon, while Kelly searched the latter's pockets. Several trinkets were taken from him as well as a gold watch with the fob bearing the initials "K" and \$70.30 in money. When the searching was complete Barry is thinking of the money to have said: "Red, make sure and search the left trousers pocket."

Miss Balanta corroborated the story of her escort and said that while she did not positively identify Barry she was positive that one of the young highwaymen was tall and slender and that Barry had called him "Red." Kelly is tall and both young men answered the descriptions given by their alleged victims.

Kelly said in court: "All I have to say, Judge, is that what that lady said is a lie. I never saw her before in all my life."

Barry said: "Well, Judge, I've got this to say; that it is a fixed job to send us away. Up in the jail a detective brought this man and woman to see us. He told them to report to the police headquarters. On the morning of the trial and that he would tell them what to say in court. I will remember him saying, 'Remember that one of the guys is red-headed.' It is a crooked scheme, Judge, to railroad us and I say it is all a frame-up."

Judge Bartlett bound them over. Bonds were fixed at \$1,000 in each case.

Frederick McGuire, guard at the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. powder reservation, living at the barracks in Boston avenue, complained to the police last night that he had been held up and robbed of \$5 at the same spot two weeks ago. The description he gave of the holdup men tallies with that of Barry and Kelly. This charge, will be pressed in the superior court. Another resident of East Bridgeport, who refused to give his name, said he would come to headquarters today and view Kelly and Barry. He said he was held up and robbed at the same spot a week ago.

## Klein Bankruptcy Petition Discloses Debts of \$66,758.67

With liabilities of \$66,758.67 and assets of only \$100, Edgar Klein, Sr., of Norwalk has the distinction of filing one of the biggest bankruptcy petitions Referee John W. Banks has received in years. From the items on Klein's schedule of debts it is apparent that many banks in New York and New Jersey obtained judgments against him on notes but were unable to collect. These notes varied in size from a few hundred dollars to several thousand. Klein also owed numerous bills for merchandise and is indebted to Dr. Charles E. Birch of White Plains, N. Y., for \$561 for services. Referee Banks has not yet assigned a date for the first meeting of Klein's creditors.

## Bandit Leader Continues His Flight to Mountains In Interior, and is Reported in Neighborhood of Las Cruces—Fears of Clash Between United States and Carranza Officials Have Passed—American Punitive Expedition Will Not Occupy Towns, Says Washington Ruling.

El Paso, March 18.—Francisco Villa is in the neighborhood of Las Cruces, 110 miles south of Casas Grandes, according to information received by General Gaviara, Carranza commander at Juarez.

American cavalrymen pursuing Villa were camped at dawn today at Colonia Dublan, one of the environs of Casas Grandes. They arrived in the night.

Through Colonia Dublan runs the road to the Galeana district, 25 miles southeast, where Villa was last definitely reported.

### Fears of Disputes Dispelled

The news of the encampment at Colonia Dublan dispelled fears of any disputes with constitutionalist authorities over what position the American troops should occupy at Casas Grandes.

Mormon scouts dashed into Colonia Dublan last night with the news that the Americans were near. The column which was first into this important American settlement was said to be the cavalry from Hachita.

### Carranza Mutiny Is Reported

Nogales, Ariz., March 18.—Trouble in the constitutionalist garrison at Hermosillo, Mex., was reported here today. Among other reports there was said to be a mutiny.

### Reports Crisis Has Passed

El Paso, March 18.—General Gaviara, Carranza commander at Juarez, in a statement given to the Associated Press asserted that the crisis in the relations between the United States and Mexico is passed and there is no further need to fear trouble.

### Sharp Fighting at Torreon

Torreon, Mex., March 18.—Fighting has been in progress since early yesterday between constitutionalists and Villistas at Canon Chorrillos in the Torreon district. The Villa commander is said to be Juan Marito and Canuto Reyes is said to be his pursuer.

## AMERICANS NOT TO OCCUPY ANY TOWNS, IS RULE

Washington, March 18.—American troops pursuing Villa and his bandits have no intention and no orders to occupy any cities or towns during their march into Mexico.

Officials said today at the White House and war department today after receipt of a report that General Gaviara, the Carranza commander at Juarez, had given notice that General Pershing's troops would not be allowed to occupy Casas Grandes or other towns.

It was declared by administration officials that the pursuit of Villa, by the entirely a punitive expedition, had none of the characteristics of an invasion and that there was no object in occupying towns or cities, because the American troops will keep constantly on the move.

Officials said today that the situation at Tampico, where uneasiness is said to exist among Americans and other foreigners had no bearing on the pursuit of Villa.

Reports received at both the war and state departments today continued to be optimistic.

Secretary Baker early today issued the following statement:

"The reports received directly through military channels and those sent to this department from other departments of the government indicate quiet along the entire border, except some excitement at Tampico, which is apparently temporary and without cause."

"There are no reports of operations of the expedition available for publication."

The secretary said he would leave Washington this afternoon for his home at Cleveland and would not return here until Tuesday morning. In his absence Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, will be acting secretary of war.

## TROOPS ARE NEARING VILLA'S TERRITORY

El Paso, March 18.—If the speed of 30 miles a day at which the expeditionary column has moved is maintained, the American soldiers should be in Villa territory before nightfall. Casas Grandes, 25 miles from the border of the district of Guerrero, the bandit chief's native hearth. There has been no reliable report as to the exact whereabouts of Villa but it is considered fairly certain that he has taken refuge in the fastnesses of the Sierra Madras, one of the wildest and most inaccessible regions in all Mexico. The people of Guerrero are said to be fanatical followers of the fugitive and he can rely on them for food, recruits and information as to the movements of

his pursuers.

The task of the United States will really not have begun until they reach the foothills. The arrival of the expeditionary troops in the vicinity of Casas Grandes was greeted along the border with a sigh of relief, insofar as the fate of the 500 American Mormons at Colonia Dublan and Colonia Morales is concerned. The soldiers are already south of these settlements and consequently all fears for the safety of the colonists have been removed.

While the expedition has passed peacefully thus far into Mexico and the Carranza officials have shown every indication of both their willingness and ability to avoid friction, the tension along the Rio Grande has by no means relaxed. It is felt here that the real test will come when fighting with the Villista bandits actually starts. The lengthening lines of communication, it is pointed out, offer tempting bait for raids by guerrillas. The refugees in the border towns are especially insistent that the first bloodshed will be the signal for serious trouble.

However, thus far the border is very peaceful. Capt. W. D. Green, the night chief of police of El Paso, stated today that he had never known the city to be so quiet and free from crime.

Washington, March 18.—Navy officials continued to reiterate that movements of ships and marines had no concern with the Mexican situation.

Riverside, Cal., March 18.—Volunteers are being enrolled today for a vigilance committee of 200 authorized by the city council for service in the event of a Mexican outbreak. Rifles and ammunition will be purchased for the committee.

## Judge Lenient With Excise Law Violators

Owing to the fact that no effort was made to conceal the intentions of the promoters to sell liquor in violation of the excise law, Judge Frederick A. Bartlett in the city court this morning said he would be lenient in the case of James A. Brennan, 451 East Main street, charged with selling liquor without a license, and a fine of \$50 was imposed.

In the case of the five bartenders who had been hired by Brennan and who were charged with frequenting a saloon in the city court this morning, the judge was lenient upon payment of the costs of the court.

Brennan, familiarly known as "Slim," was the promoter of a cabaret and dance at Sokol hall in Halsted street one week ago last night. Quantities of liquor were on hand for sale. Brennan had no license to sell and he had no permit to hold the dance. He was arrested upon order of John C. Stanley, president of the police board. Brennan paid the fine as well as the costs imposed in the case of the five bartenders.